

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-33, all of the claims set forth in the verified translation of PCT/DE2003/003474. Please also cancel claims 1-34 as presented by KBA on August 30, 2004. Further, please also cancel claims 1-25, as set forth in the letter from KBA dated November 22, 2004. Please add new claims 34-74 as follows.

Claims 1-33 (Cancelled)

34. (New) A guide element of a web processing machine comprising:

a load bearing support, which is at least in part fluid-permeable;
a layer of a porous material on said load bearing support;
a plurality of micro-openings in said porous material, each with a diameter of less than 500 µm, said micro-openings being open pores of said porous material, said plurality of micro-openings being adapted to allow emergence of a fluid under pressure around an entire circumference of at least one longitudinal section of said guide element; and

means supporting said guide element for positioning in a selected one of two angular positions in respect to a web contacting said guide element.

35. (New) A guide element of a web-processing machine comprising:

a wall defining said guide element, said wall including an outer surface;
a plurality of micro-bores in said wall and having outwardly oriented micro-openings with a diameter of less than 500 µm, with said micro-openings being located

on said outer surface, said micro-openings being adapted for the emergence of a fluid under pressure; and

means supporting said guide element for positioning in a selected one of at least two angular positions in respect to a web entering said guide element, said plurality of micro-openings emitting fluid under pressure to openings on a side of said guide element being contacted by the web and on a side of said guide element not contacting the web.

36. (New) The guide element of claim 35 wherein said micro-openings are arranged substantially around an entire circumference of said guide element in at least one longitudinal section of said guide element.

37. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein in both of said positions of said guide element fluid exits from said micro-sections over an entire circumference of said guide element in at least one longitudinal section.

38. (New) The guide element of claim 35 wherein in both of said positions of said guide element fluid exits from said micro-sections over an entire circumference of said guide element in at least one longitudinal section.

39. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein said guide element is pivotable through 90° and wherein in said first angular position a first half-shell-like half of a surface area is engaged by the web, and in said second angular position a second half-

shell-like half of said surface area is engaged by the web.

40. (New) The guide element of claim 35 wherein said guide element is pivotable through 90° and wherein in said first angular position a first half-shell-like half of a surface area is engaged by the web, and in said second angular position a second half-shell-like half of said surface area is engaged by the web.

41. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein said pores have a mean diameter between 5 µm and 50µm.

42. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein said porous material is an open-pored sinter material.

43. (New) The guide element of claim 42 wherein said sinter material is sinter metal.

44. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein said support has, on a side facing said layer, a support surface connected with said layer, and a plurality of openings adapted to feed the fluid to said layer.

45. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein said layer has a thickness of less than 1 mm.

46. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein said support has a plurality of

passages, which are not connected with each other, extending over a length and width of said support.

47. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein said support is a support tube with a hollow profile.

48. (New) The guide element of claim 47 wherein said support tube has a wall thickness of at least 3 mm.

49. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein a degree of opening of said micro-openings is between 3% and 30% of an outer surface area of said layer of porous material.

50. (New) The guide element of claim 35 wherein said diameter of said micro-openings is not greater than 300 μm .

51. (New) The guide element of claim 35 wherein a thickness of said wall is between 0.2 mm and 3.0 mm.

52. (New) The guide element of claim 35 wherein a hole density of said micro-openings per unit of surface area of said wall is at least $0.2/\text{mm}^2$.

53. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein between 1 to 20 standard cubic

meters of air per hour emerges from a square meter of said surface.

54. (New) The guide element of claim 35 wherein between 1 to 20 standard cubic meters of air per hour emerges from a square meter of said surface.

55. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein between 2 to 15 standard cubic meters of air per hour emerge from a square meter of said surface.

56. (New) The guide element of claim 35 wherein between 2 to 15 standard cubic meters of air per hour emerge from a square meter of said surface.

57. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein said porous material is charged from the interior with at least 1 bar of excess pressure.

58. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein said porous material is charged from the interior with an excess pressure of more than 4 bar.

59. (New) The guide element of claim 34 further including a feed line adapted to supply fluid to said guide element and having an inner cross-sectioned area no greater than 100 mm².

60. (New) The guide element of claim 35 further including a feed line adapted to supply fluid to said guide element and having an inner cross-sectioned area no greater

than 100 mm².

61. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein said guide element has an outer diameter of between 60 mm and 100 mm.

62. (New) The guide element of claim 35 wherein said guide element has an outer diameter of between 60 mm and 100 mm.

63. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein said guide element has a length of at least 1,200 mm.

64. (New) The guide element of claim 35 wherein said guide element has a length of at least 1,200 mm.

65. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein said guide element is a turning bar.

66. (New) The guide element of claim 35 wherein said guide element is a turning bar.

67. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein the fluid under pressure is compressed air.

68. (New) The guide element of claim 35 wherein the fluid under pressure is compressed air.
69. (New) The guide element of claim 34 wherein said layer has a thickness of less than 1 mm.
70. (New) The guide element of claim 35 wherein said micro-bores are made by accelerated particles.
71. (New) The guide element of claim 35 wherein said micro-bores are made by drilling using an electron beam.
72. (New) The guide element of claim 35 wherein at least one wall section of said wall having said micro-bores has a dirt and ink repelling finish on its surface.
73. (New) The guide element of claim 72 wherein said finish is a coating containing chromium.
74. (New) The guide element of claim 73 wherein said coating is polished to a high gloss.